MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 OCTOBER 1982

Iran-Iraq War

Military Situation -- A 6 October Iraqi military communique, cited by INA, announced that Iraqi forces "completely wiped out" Iranian forces in the Mandali region, describing the "counteroffensive" as the "fiercest and most violent." INA noted in another report that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn had supervised the operation. Another Iraqi communique, carried by INA, asserted on 5 October that the Iranian forces lost 2,540 dead and 12 tanks destroyed in the past 4 days of fighting near Mandali. The communique added that air attacks on Iranian targets scored direct hits. However, an Iranian military communique carried by Tehran radio claimed that Iran holds complete superiority over the central sector battlefields although fierce clashes still occur. Regarding reports that Sudan is prepared to send forces to aid Iraq, IRNA stressed that the Iranian forces are not frightened by the presence of troops from any country.

Hammadi Speaks at UN -- Speaking at a UN Security Council session on the Iran-Iraq war, Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi reiterated Iraq's call for a peaceful solution and its acceptance of UN resolutions on the war, INA reported. He asked the UN Security Council to compel Iran to stop the fighting, which he said threatens the Gulf region. INA noted that a resolution was adopted calling for an end to the fighting.

Israel

Talks With Draper -- U.S. special envoy Morris Draper met with Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon in Jerusalem to discuss plans for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, Jerusalem radio reported. Begin's adviser Uri Porat said in remarks carried by Jerusalem television that both sides agree that Syrian and IDF troops should leave Lebanon simultaneously and according to a predetermined plan. However, Begin and Sharon insisted that the process begin with the removal of "terrorists" from Lebanon. Begin asserted that the PLO presence freezes the evacuation process and causes a threat to security. He also reiterated the need for security arrangements for southern Lebanon, Porat said. According to political sources cited by Jerusalem radio, Israel demanded that these arrangements be made in direct Israeli-Lebanese talks and that special status be secured for Christian Militia Commander Sa'd Haddad. The sources went on to say that Israel rejects multinational force patrols in southern Lebanon and that this time there must be an arrangement with the Lebanese, adding that the prospects for a peace treaty are dim.

On the U.S. position, the radio reported that the United States wants to concentrate on the removal of Syrian and IDF soldiers, and opposes Israel's demands for the PLO to leave first and for maintaining Haddad's status. A Jerusalem television correspondent claimed that the United States also promised to facilitate the PLO departure in coordination with the Lebanese Government and Saudi Arabia.

In another development reported by Jerusalem radio, Sharon told Draper Israel also demands that Syria return all IDF prisoners and kidnapped soldiers and supply reports on missing men before the IDF withdraws from Lebanon.

Sharon's Position -- Jerusalem television said Cabinet ministers feel that Sharon's status as defense minister is deteriorating as a result of criticism within the army and lack of confidence among IDF officers.

Lebanon

Security Situation -- The Lebanese Army arrested hundreds of young men during a massive search campaign in West Beirut for illegal immigrants, weapons and restricted materials, KUNA reported. A Lebanese police source cited in the report said the army had apprehended about 2,000 people. Meanwhile, a group calling itself the Lebanese resistance urged Lebanese to practice all forms of resistance, including violence, against the Israeli occupation, AFP reported. AFP confirmed that the group claimed responsibility for the 3 October ambush of Israeli troops near 'Alayh.

Al-Biqa' Situation -- Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland radio claimed that the Israelis attacked Libyan forces in the Al-Biqa' Valley early on 5 October.

Political Situation -- Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan held consultations on the formation of a new government with delegations from Christian and Muslim parties and blocs, according to Beirut radio. Meanwhile, the Saudi ambassador delivered a message to President Amin al-Jumayyil from King Fahd, the radio noted. In remarks broadcast by the radio, the ambassador said Al-Jumayyil is welcome to visit Saudi Arabia any time.

Assassination Investigation -- The investigation into the assassination of Bashir al-Jumayyil has been completed and the results have been put at the disposal of the Phalangist Party Political Bureau, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. Citing sources involved in the investigation, the radio said that all the elements of the crime will be made public and that the investigation revealed all the foreign sides which participated in the assassination.

PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Baghdad for talks with President Saddam Husayn, INA reported on 6 October. Earlier, 'Arafat said in an interview with the London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that he will visit Jordan to inspect Palestinian forces and hold intensive discussions. The PLO leader stressed that a future Palestinian state should have special relations with Jordan. Earlier, the Jerusalem Arab paper AL-FAJR reported that Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan told a radio station in the Netherlands that the PLO is prepared to set up a federation with Jordan if and when a Palestinian state is established.

Iran

The Islamic revolution committees' publicity office announced in a statement broadcast by Tehran radio that revolution guards arrested or killed more than 30 high-ranking Mojahedin-e Khalq and Feda'iyan-e Khalq activists in Khuzestan.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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AFGHAN ARMY GENERAL FOUND DEAD IN KABUL

BK051404 Hong Kong AFP in English 1341 GMT 5 Oct 82

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Oct. 5 (AFP) -- An Afghan Army general belonging to the Khalq faction of the ruling Communist Party, which is opposed to President Babrak Karmal's Parcham faction, was found dead with bullet wounds in his office last week, Western diplomatic sources said here today. The state-run Kabul radio confirmed the death on October 2, but referred to the general by his civilian name and did not specify his army rank. There has been no confirmed report of the cause of his death.

The diplomats who monitor developments in Afghanistan identified the general as Abdul Wodud and said he was the commander of the central core of the Afghan Army and based in Kabul. Other diplomats confirmed this but disagreed on the dates and the cause of death. The Western diplomats, quoting reports circulating in Kabul said Gen. Wodud was found wounded with gun shots in his office on September 29 and that he was buried with state honours the same day. The other diplomats said he died on October 1 in his office.

On the cause of the general's death, the diplomats quoted reports as saying variously that he was a victim of faction fighting in the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), that he had been killed by the Moslem insurgents fighting the Soviet-backed government in Kabul and that he had committed suicide. However, Afghan area experts here, who also monitor developments in that embattled country, said the general might have been a victim of the faction fighting in the party. Gen. Wodud, who was known for being more independent than other Afghan Army generals, was promoted to his present rank earlier this year and given charge of the central core of the Afghan Armed Forces. He is said in the past to have opposed Mr. Karmal's effort to purge Khalq faction members from the army where they are in a majority.

The Western diplomats pointed to various evidence that attacks on Soviet military personnel and installations in the Afghan capital had increased rapidly in recent weeks. The insurgents bombed two Soviet military jeeps in the city's busy Share-i-Nau District on October 3, seriously wounding an unidentified Soviet soldier and damaging a private car.

The Soviet Embassy in the Karte-Shew District of the city was subjected to small and heavy arms fire during the past week. Increasing insurgent attacks on the embassy had forced the city administration to open a new police post in the Neelem Bagh area next to the Soviet Embassy building, the diplomats said.

Earlier last week insurgents armed with light and heavy fire arms mounted an attack on the police post. The Soviet Embassy guards mistakenly assuming the police post had been overrun mounted a counter attack which lasted throughout the night. At dawn they found out at dawn [as received] they were firing at government policemen. At least 15 Afghan policemen were either killed or wounded in the Soviet attack, the diplomats said. There was, however, no independent confirmation of the reports.

Soviet-aided Afghan Air Force mounted a bombing and rocket attack on villages in Paghman, about 20 kms (12 miles) north-west of Kabul on September 26 in retaliation for the earlier abduction of 10 Soviet and 20 Afghan soldiers, the diplomats said.

The diplomats said of the 10 Soviet captured, six were killed by the insurgents and the remaining taken to the insurgent bases on the Pakistan-Afghan border. All the four are of officer rank, the diplomats said, but could not give their names. Pakistan-based insurgents had, from time to time, shown captured Soviet soldiers to Western newsmen. The diplomats could not say what fate the 20 captured Afghans met.

AFP: BOMBS EXPLODE IN MEERUT; 70 DEAD

BK060928 Hong Kong AFP in English 0825 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Excerpts] New Delhi, Oct. 6 (AFP) -- Two bombs have exploded in continuing Hindu-Moslem violence in the north Indian town of Meerut where unofficial reports put the death toll at 70, despite heavy reinforcements of police and other para-military forces, press reports said here today. The bomb explosions yesterday and on Monday, injuring at least two people, were the latest episodes reported in the exactly one-month-old riots triggered by a dispute over the location of a "place of worship" in Meerut, a town about 75 km (46.6 miles) northeast of here in Uttar Pradesh state.

Officials say the riots have left 29 dead and over 70 injured but unofficial reports put the number of dead at about 70.

Interior Minister P.C. Sethi told the upper house of the Indian Parliament today that the Uttar Pradesh administration, controlled by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress Party, would soon institute an inquiry into the violence, as opposition deputies raised questions about it. Mr Sethi said the federal government had rushed 10 companies (altogether 1,200 men) of the para-military central reserve police and five of the Border Security Forces (BSF) to the simmering town.

Some Meerut local leaders said that women members of the "minority community" (Moslem) had left for safer places in nearby districts, the press reports said. They said that six localities in the town, involving about an estimated 30,000 people, were still under a dusk-to-dawn curfew. However, there were no reports of fresh violence until today.

Home Minister on Situation

BK051325 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] In the Rajya Sabha today, Home Minister P.C. Sethi appealed to all sections of the house to cooperate with the government in restoring peace in Meerut.

Replying to a calling-attention motion on the Meerut situation moved by G.C. Bhattachuarjea, Democratic Socialist Party, and others, he said the state government is making all efforts to bring back normalcy. The center is keeping a watch on the situation. Sethi informed the house that a delegation of members of Parliament of all parties is visitig Meerut tomorrow. Vigorous searchers are going on for recovering illicit arms in the city and a strict vigil is being kept to prevent inflow of arms.

800 Arrested

BK051224 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] In Meerut, the situation is now under control. No untoward incident was reported during last night from any part of the city. According to an official spokesman, about 800 persons have been arrested so far. He said the drive is continuing to unearth explosives and unlicensed arms.

ZAIL SINGH TO UNDERGO SURGERY 6 OCTOBER

BK051313 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] President Zail Singh is to undergo surgery at the Texas Heart Institute tomorrow. This was disclosed by Union Health Minister Shankaranand in Parliament this afternoon. He said the specialists of the institute have advised surgery on the basis of investigations. Members of both the houses joined in the minister in wishing the president speedy and complete recovery.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,070

LD051826 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Communique No 1,070 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. May the glorious and auspicious 'Id-e Ghadir-e Khom [Shi'ite religious anniversary] be a happy one for all those who dearly love Imam 'Ali, may peace be upon him, and those who follow in his path; and may the anniversary of the historic emigration of the imam of the Islamic nation remain forever precious and may we all continuously enjoy the blessing of his presence until the revolution of the mahdi, may God Almighty hasten his esteemed advent.

According to the latest reports from the operational zone in the western part of the country, between yesterday and this morning clashes and exchange of fire continued on the (Salman Koshteh), (Miyan Tang), (Kohneh Rig) and Gisk fronts. On these fronts the enemy's counterattacks and acts of resistance were smashed and the Saddamist forces were forced to flee. In the (Salman Kosteh) region, two enemy tanks were destroyed. Thanks to fire opened by helicopters of the army aviation force, one tank and three trenches of the Saddamist servicemen were destroyed in the (Kohneh Rig) region and, thanks to shelling from our artillery units, two enemy ammunition dumps were destroyed.

Islam's victorious forces are already engaged in crushing the enemy forces while enjoying complete superiority and domination over the situation on the battlefronts in the Muslim ibn 'Aqil Operation zone. In a few places the clashes are extremely fierce and close combat is continuing. On one of these fronts, two enemy tanks were also captured intact. The number of prisoners captured by yesterday was 251.

In the [name indistinct] and Meymak regions, exchange of fierce fire continued, and as a result of infiltration operations carried out by Islam's forces in the Mehran region, one enemy vehicle and several foxholes, trenches and observation posts were destroyed. A number of Iraqi servicemen were either killed or wounded.

In the Musian region, our forces destroyed a 106-mm rifle belonging to the aggressors.

Thanks to artillery fire opened by the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on enemy positions in the (?Valiabad) and Panjwin regions losses and casualties were inflicted on the Saddamist army and its fire was silenced.

In the operational zone in the southern part of the country, our combatant units opened fire on the Saddamists' positions and fortifications and thwarted the activities of enemy engineering units seeking to construct earthworks, erect obstacles and dig canals and trenches.

At present, our units in this region are safeguarding and defending their positions and, by opening fire on enemy infantry and armored vehicles, are further strengthening their defensive positions.

On 3 October 1982, one of our combatant brothers from the Islamic Republic of Iran Navy gained the rank of martyrdom in the operational zone. May his soul be happy.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRNA NOTES SUDANESE OFFER OF AID TO IRAQ

LD051050 Tehran IRNA in English 0943 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 4, IRNA -- According to the official Sudanese News Agency (SUNA), following talks between Iraq's charge d'affaires to Sudan and that country's undersecretary for foreign affairs, Hashim 'Uthman, Sudan announced that it is prepared to send troops to Iraq.

The announcement comes on the heels of Iran's latest offensive aimed at expelling the aggressor Iraqis from its land, occupied since the beginning of its invasion against Iran (Sept 23, 1980).

The move is a continuing plot by reactionary Arab governments in collusion with Saddam, Zionism and U.S. imperialism to snuff out the Islamic revolution and Republic.

Sudan's leader, Ja'far Numayri, also U.S. imperialism's lackey in North Africa besides being principally the only Arab country to back Egypt in its peace treaty with the Zionist regime, has a long history of repression against his nation as well as unswerving subserviency to international Zionism and imperialism.

Sudan reportedly has an estimated deficit of $600 million and last month was unable to repay $22 million in interest on the loans.

As a result of the critical economic problems it has been wracked by wide-scale demos [as received] in which its revolutionary people vehemently blamed Numayri's pro-Zionist U.S. policies as being responsible for the nation's cronic economic ills. It was reported that hundreds were jailed, several killed and many others seriously wounded.

It is also reported that Sudan contracted with the U.S. for the leasing and building of military facilities for its Rapid Deployment Forces. The cost of these stations will cost about $4 billion. The U.S. has promised to increase its aid to Sudan from $100 million to $200 million annually.

Also, the Lebanese magazine AL-KAFAH AL-ARABI reported that a secret meeting took place between Zionist regime's and Sudan's envoys concerning use of Sudanese military bases for operations against a certain Arab country, the talks are reportedly continuing.

After the successful Fath al-Mubin Operation last spring by the Islamic Republic's combatants, Numayri urged Arab countries not to remain silent and neutral about the Iran-Iraq war.

While Jordan at the same time sent special volunteer forces to fight alongside the losing Iraqi Army and Egypt supplied it with millions of dollars in military equipment.

Notwithstanding the billions of dollars in financial aid to the tottering Iraqi regime as well as the covert and overt support by international organisations and U.S. functionaries to it, Saddam has found himself helpless in the face of the constantly advancing Iranian forces.

Either Numayri is truly a blind man or U.S. imperialism cannot allow another defeat of one of its lackey regimes, especially by an uncontrollable force such as the Islamic Republic.

It should also be mentioned that contrary to Numayri's declaration of sending troops to fight alongside Ba'thist forces, many Sudanese as well as Jordanians have been captured and are currently POWs in Iran's facilities.

The heroic fighters of the Islamic Republic are not frightened of any troops irregardless of their nationality and if Numayri thinks that Sudan's troops will be a determining factor in this war he had better think again.

KHAMENE'I CABLES CHATTI ON BEIRUT MASSACRE

LD031138 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Oct 82

[Text] Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, our country's president, has sent a message to the Islamic Conference Organization secretary general in connection with the massacre in Lebanon.

In his message, the president says that the tragedy in Lebanon, which turned the city of Beirut into a site for the massacre of thousands of defenseless Muslim Lebanese and Palestinian men, women and children, will no doubt be regarded as one of history's most painful events and the most infamous massacre in recent decades. The oppressed Palestinian and Lebanese Muslims have been the victims of a joint conspiracy by American oppression, Israeli usurpers and some Arabs who, unfortunately, are pursuing U.S. designs. The Palestinian valiants have been removed from their strong bases through the conspiracy of agents of the United States, and the Muslim masses of Lebanon, whom no one cared to defend either politically or militarily, have been a subject of revenge by military men obsessed with their defeat during their 2 months behind West Beirut's gates.

Unfortunately, the issue so far has not been dealt with suitably by either the heads of the Islamic countries or even the countries which constantly claim to be defenders of the Palestinians aspirations.

Our country's president said in his message that the question of Palestine concerns the entire world of Islam, and he proposes that a summit of the Islamic heads of states should be convened as soon as possible in either Tehran or any other Islamic capital that has not embarked upon open enmity with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In my view this is a historical responsibility and a task expected from everyone involved with the Islamic Conference Organization.

KHAMENE'I, NEW ALGERIAN ENVOY DISCUSS U.S.

LD051512 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] The new Algerian ambassador to Iran met with President Khamene'i today and presented his credentials. Expressing pleasure over his assignment as ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, he said: The Islamic revolution enjoys our respect; we are proud of it and hope that through cooperation the two countries can combat all the plots and threats hatched by America and Zionism.

Stressing the need for total cooperation among Islamic countries against the conspiracies of aliens and global oppressors, President Khamene'i said: Through its influence in the dependent countries of the region, America has created various tragedies, such as the invasion of Lebanon by the Zionists, recent decisions adopted by the Fes summit and the imposed war on Iran by Iraq through its mercenary pawn the infidel Saddam. If we confine ourselves to simple reactions against such acts by America, then we will no doubt be defeated. We must take the initiative in our approach to global oppression.

The president then added: It is totally unacceptable to have America encourage Israel to wage war against Arab countries whenever it sees fit; or to have it order a cease-fire when it wishes, thus ordering Israel to withdraw. Nor is it acceptable to have America order an invasion of Iranian territory by Iraq and then tell it, when it wishes, to end the war, while, in the midst of all this, we sit idly by. We must understand how America operates and how we must respond to it.

Commenting on the policies pursued by the reactionary governments dependent on America, President Khamene'i said: These governments resemble a dying patient kept alive for a few days through the administration of medicines. But we believe this situation cannot last long. Either they will have to moderate their relations with America or they will be overthrown. To eliminate their wrongful policies, we must consolidate the region's progressive front.

MUSAVI CALLS REGIONAL VISIT 'BENEFICIAL'

GF021741 Tehran IRNA in English 1720 GMT 2 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct 1, IRNA -- Prime Minister Musavi returned here this evening after touring provinces of Charharmahall va Bakhtiari, Kohkiluyeh and Boyer Ahmad, as well as Esfahan.

During his two-day inspection tour, the prime minister visited the cities of Esfahan, Shiraz, Beh Dasht, Shahr-e Kord, and some villages.

Upon his arrival in Tehran the prime minister said that the results of his trip were both beneficial and good.

Prime Minister Musavi while in Esfahan praised the victorious activities of the Islamic defenders in the western fronts of the country in a talk to IRNA reporter (he was referring to the new Iranian offensive launched early this morning).

He further said that once again the Islamic combatants struck another blow upon the U.S. and the biasness of the Western mass media.

Explaining the achievements of his trip to the deprived regions of Kohkiluyeh and Boyer Ahmad as well as Chaharmahall va Bakhtiari, Prime Minister Musavi said that the trip had two aspects: Firstly, it was the government which considers itself at the service of the oppressed, intends to pay much attention and, secondly, it was to gauge the extent of support and knowledge of the people of these regions for the Islamic Republic.

Discoursing on the existing shortages in these regions, the prime minister expressed the hope that the Cabinet and authorities would endeavour to meet the shortages with the assistance of the people.

Engineer Musavi was accompanied by Minister of Education 'Ali Akbar Parvaresh and Minister of State for Executive Affairs Mr Aqazadeh.

CAPTURE OF LEADING 'HYPOCRITES' REPORTED

LD041820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, following the arrest of a number of inhuman hypocrites, a statement was issued by the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. It says:

Once again, following the incessant efforts by the Islamic revolution guards and the sincere cooperation of the 36-million-strong intelligence organization, receiving inspiration from the pure souls of all the martyrs of the victorious Islamic revolution of Iran, more deadly blows have been inflicted upon the feeble organization of the anti-God hypocrites. Conspiracies hatched by the inhuman hypocrites against the great Islamic revolution have been discovered and neutralized. During these successful operations, carried out by the self-sacrificing members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Tehran and Karaj during the past week, a large number of the corruption-ridden safehouses of the American, reactionary hypocrite minigroups were discovered and more than 30 important members and cadres of the hypocrites organization were arrested or killed. The names of some of them are as follows:

(Hoseyn Khademi), an experienced member and the person responsible for protecting the leadership of the hypocrites minigroup.

(Hadi Pagholam), a long-standing member of the hypocrites and a member of the group in charge of protecting the leadership.

(Heydar 'Ali Niyakan), a founding member of the hypocrites minigroup and an experienced official in charge of the military section of that minigroup.

(Reza Ratebi), a long-standing member of the military and intelligence section of the American hypocrites minigroup. He was one of the officials in charge of torturing the three heroic guards of the Islamic Revolution Committee.

(Karim Baba-Khani), an active member of the military-technical section of the organization.

(Batul Faqih-Dezfuli), a long-standing member of the organization and a high-ranking member of the military-intelligence section of the organization.

(Sadeq Katuzian), a long-standing member of the organization and an official of the supply and forgery section of the organization.

(Ebrahim Zabihiyan), an active member of the organization and an official in charge of the supply and forgery division of the social section of the organization.

(Maryam Golzadeh-Ghafuri), an active member of the social section of the organization.

('Ali-Reza Haj-Samadi), an active member of the social section of the organization.

(Nayyereh Shafi'i), a member of the social section of the organization.

Four officials of the special criminal activities groups of the American hyprocrites organization were arrested or killed by the brothers from the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

50 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' KILLED, WOUNDED

LD041832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Excerpt] The Central News Unit, quoting the Seyyed ash-Shohada's Hamzeh headquarters, reports that in connection with mopping-up operations along the strategic Sarbaz-Iranshahr road on 2 October, the special martyrs brigade, in cooperation with the Islamic Republic Army and the tribal mobilization unit, succeeded in liberating several more kilometers along the same axis from the domination of the counterrevolutionaries.

During these operations, 50 counterrevolutionaries were either killed or wounded and 7 were captured. Our forces also managed to successfully mop up the following villages which were highly important positions under the control of the armed illegal minigroups in the region: (Tirgan), (Sepah Kam), (Shirmargan), (Chah Deh Kula) and Khezrabad. The Islamic forces have liberated these villages and taken over the area.

The report adds that following the liberation of these villages 25 Kalashnikov rifles, 1 105-mm cannon with ammunition, 5 vehicles, a certain quantity of explosives and some documents were seized.

OVER 100 REBELS KILLED IN WEST AZARBAYJAN

LD051024 Tehran IRNA in English 0940 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Urumiyeh, Oct 4, IRNA -- During the continuing purging operations of the Sar Dasht-Piranshahr axis, in West Azarbayjan Province, more than 100 counterrevolutionaries were killed and many others were wounded.

The operation, which started on Saturday, also led to the purging of the Saku heights, also on this axis, in addition to the other villages.

Also, one artillery piece, six vehicles, and 20 individual weapons were seized by the Islamic forces.

SUNNI CLERGYMAN, SON KILLED NEAR NAQADEH

LD051838 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Excerpt] According to a report from the Central News Unit, a Sunni clergyman, Mullah (Mohammad Hoseynzadeh), and his son (Abubakr Hoseynzadeh) were martyred in Mehmandar village near Naqadeh by counterrevolutionary elements. The martyr (Mohammad Hoseynzadeh) was one of the combative clergy of the region whose considerable activities along the path of the grandeur of Islam had frightened the counterrevolutionary elements. Yesterday he was kidnapped by counterrevolutionary elements and was wrongfully matryred with his son.

ALL HOUSEOWNERS, TENANTS MUST PROVE IDENTITY

LD032036 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Oct 82

[Excerpts] The Central News Unit reports that all houseowners, tenants and occupants of residences are required to submit by 16 October photographs of themselves and their tenants together with their particulars to the nearest of the 14 committees appointed by the central public prosecutor.

This was announced by Mr Asadollah Lajevardi, the Islamic revolution prosecutor for the Central Province, at a press conference. He said that under this system and with the cooperation of the people we have succeeded in arresting 60-70 hypocrites. He then said that this plan is only to identify the members of different minigroups and the hypocrites organization and there is no other motive such as tax collecting as rumored by the minigroups.

He then thanked the people of Tehran for their very good cooperation and said that, in order to complete this plan, the prosecutor has asked the interior minister to put more forces at the disposal of the committees; also, the deadline will be extended by 10 days. Therefore, houseowners and tenants have until 16 October to hand in their photographs and particulars to the 14 committees.

The Islamic revolution prosecutor added that this plan covers all storeowners, garageowners, hotelowners and all those who accommodate people on their property. The owners should report all those who are using their property as their place of residence. At the press conference we asked all real estate agents to report all the tanants of the houses they have rented. Mr Lajevardi warned all those buying secondhand household goods to report to the committees those who are in a hurry to sell their goods.

The prosecutor of the Islamic revolution for the Central Province finally thanked all the people for their cooperation in implementing this plan and emphasized that those violating this instruction would be dealt with according to the regulations.

NABAVI COMMENTS ON CONDITION OF HEAVY INDUSTRY

GF040606 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 13 Sep 82 p 14

[Exclusive interview with Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi by KEYHAN political correspondent Mehdi Zarrin -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] As the minister for heavy industries, you have been touring factories. Please give us a summary of the general condition of heavy industries in Iran.

[Answer] Heavy industries in our country are a new phenomena, even though there are many factories presently operating which come under the category of heavy industries. However, in their totality, they are very small compared to what there should be in the Islamic Republic, which is lacking in heavy industries. The industries currently under the umbrella of the ministry are in fact scattered industries that cannot stand on their own feet.

As you know, heavy industries, in other words capital metal industries, are in fact the core industries. Therefore, they have to be formed in such a way that the country's industry can become self-sufficient. Under the category of heavy industries, there are manufacturing factories and plants for manufacturing heavy machines and tools which form the basis of the industrial self-sufficiency of a country.

Unfortunately, in Iran all industries which come under the category of heavy industries are dependent. We may have invested a great deal in the heavy industries; however, the investment has not yet made us self-sufficient. The policy of the former regime was for us us to never reach self-sufficiency in any part of our industry and economy, so that any production or economic unit would be dependent on foreigners in some form. Our heavy industries, which must feed and form other industries, cannot stand on their own feet and are unfortunately dependent and scattered because they were formed on the basis of the wrong policies of the former regime. This is why had the investment that was made been directed correctly, we would have been able to achieve self-sufficiency in some industrial fields. That means production would have been in our hands from the beginning to the end. At present none of the factories which come under the umbrella of the Heavy Industries Ministry can operate independently; they must rely on machines and raw materials from abroad. This shows their dependence and, God willing, there must be efforts made to eradicate this dependence.

[Question] What is the general direction of the heavy industries in the Islamic Republic and what position does the heavy industry hold in the government programs?

[Answer] Heavy industries are those which bring our metals to smelters and then transform them to manufactured goods that generate capital. These goods have a role as capital in industry, manufacturing and transport. For example, the transport industry covers ship building, manufacture of road-building equipment, aircraft manufacturing, automobile manufacturing, and truck and tractor manufacturing.

We see that the future of industrialization and that of expansion and growth of agriculture, road construction and expansion of energy in the country is dependent on the growth of the heavy industries. Therefore, the Islamic Republic pays very exact and complete attention to the heavy industries and is making every effort to promote the rapid growth of the heavy industries. In the 20-year plan which we were able to form in our planning council, the conditions of the heavy industries have been outlined in detail.

[Question] We have witnessed stagnation and even closure of parts of industry; are the core industries facing such a state?

[Answer] The recession in our industry, of course, has several causes. First are the conditions after the revolution that changed the management and the atmosphere in the factories. Those managers who ran factories during the former regime cannot work in the system of the Islamic Republic. Some were idolaters and very rich managers who have fled and others who were minor managers are also unable to manage the factories under the system of the Islamic Republic. Therefore, following the victory of the revolution, an evolution in the management of all national industries has taken place.

The former managers, many of whom were idolatrous and dependent, were either fired or fled and they have been replaced -- following a slow-down period during the rule of the liberals -- with Hezbollahi forces who are faithful to the factories.

However, their major shortcoming is their lack of managerial experience. They have plenty of faith but very little ability or specialization. Some moves can now be observed which indicate a change in these new managers. We have programs underway for short-term and crash-training courses for the new factory managers.

Our second problem is our industrial dependence. Before the revolution, our factories were dependent and strictly assembly plants. Following the victory of the revolution and since our dependence on the superpowers and industrial nations was ended due to political considerations, we lost a lot of opportunities. All of our factories are dependent and assembly plants and are thus dependent on the foreigners in all aspects. Such problems naturally affect the managers of factories and their production.

Our third problem was the presence of counterrevolutionaries in the factories and has been eliminated.

The fourth problem is lack of planning, since there has been no planning in the last few years, and as a result, our managers are in a state of limbo. For example, the Iran national factory is not yet clear as to whether it should continue to produce Peykans or to close down. When they want to produce Peykans and sign contracts with the British Talbot Company the type of dishonor which occurred during Bani-Sadr's era takes place. Should it not produce Peykans then it has to continue to pay salaries to its 12,000 employees without any production. God willing, the mammoth planning to be completed this year will solve this problem.

The last problem is the economic crisis and the shortage of foreign currency, which is the result of the war. This will naturally be solved after the war. The factories under the umbrella of the Heavy Industries Ministry suffer from all these problems. As a whole, our industry is not facing what could be called a depression but it has not grown as we had anticipated. We expected to have miraculous growth in the industry of the Islamic Republic and for our Islamic revolution to show a miracle in the field of the industry. Such a miracle has not yet manifested itself.

[Question] What is the level of the government's managerial ability as far as factories are concerned?

[Answer] The statement that the government has neither business nor managerial expertise is apropos. In communist countries, where management is in the hands of the government, we have noted lack of progress in their work. After many years, these communist countries have been forced to assume some capitalist attitudes and create financial incentives for the managers and workers in order to eradicate the apathy in the administration of the affairs and create a sense of responsibility. I believe it is the same for the Islamic Republic. Any project which concerns the individual, even if the individual is a faithful and responsible person, is done better than those projects that the individual has no personal stake in.

In the Islamic Republic, the issue of faith, belief in Islam, sacrifice and service for the revolution and Islam has manifested itself in the field of factory management as in other fields. Since segments of industry will effectively be under government control, considering the cultural level of the Islamic Republic, I believe it will be able to supply such a service which will be far superior to any such service offered by the private sector. Our only problem in management of the government-owned factories has been a lack of knowledge and specialization. I am certain that these Hezbollahi youths who are now running the factories will surpass all the former managers and those of capitalist and the socialist systems as soon as they gain greater experience. Therefore, I have a great deal of hope for the management of government-owned factories in the Islamic Republic compared with other places and see a bright future for these factories.

As far as government investment is concerned I should say that basically in many of the core and infrastructure industries no one but the government invests because they are not very profitable and the return on investment is over a long period. The Government of the Islamic Republic also has more capital than any capitalist, such as its oil income, its income from taxes and the immense wealth of the banks which have been nationalized. In order to avoid any administrative and bureaucratic problems in government investments, the government has drawn up plans. For example, the banks and the ministries are changing the regulations governing them and we are trying to establish a trade unit in all ministries involved in industry similar to the organization for the expansion and renewal of Iranian industry which is a part of the Ministry of Heavy Industries. This will make the issue of investments much easier and the job will be carried out like in a commercial company. I think that the government will have much better success in investments in the future.

[Question] Please give us your opinion concerning ownership and its limits under Islam?

[Answer] I will state my own opinion, which is the same as the Islamic experts, canonists and all other sources. I believe the imam has the same opinion. Ownership under Islam is a respected and legal condition. It is respected not because -- as is the opinion of the hypocrite groups and the leftists -- Islam supports capitalism, but because of the importance of private ownership in the growth of human beings.

[Question] What measures do you propose for the control of inflation and high prices?

[Answer] There are two solutions -- long-term and short-term -- for dealing with inflation and high prices. A short-term solution, when our supply is less than demand and when we are unable to supply sufficient goods to meet the demand, the way to control inflation and high prices, in my opinion is for the government to supply the essential goods at fixed prices and sufficient quantities to the public. This is an important means of breaking the back of inflation and ending any pressure on the low-income groups. The allocation of goods by coupons has had a decisive role in [reducing] inflation and high prices. It has had a beneficial affect on the low-income groups which did not have the power to fight the money of the rich. In this connection, we have not allowed money to be exchanged for goods in the Islamic Republic during the war. [sentence as published] We have stated that a millionaire and a person who earns 2,000 tumans a month will both receive the same amount of goods for the same payment. Therefore, under present conditions when supply is low, we should not allow the law of supply and demand to dominate the marketplace. Otherwise, calamities will occur. That is, the rich will eat and become fatter and the poor will become poorer and thinner. I defend the system of allocation through coupons and believe that it is 100-percent Islamic and that it is appropriate for the present conditions.

To fight high prices and inflation on a long-term basis, production must increase. Even after the war and when we have solved most problems, we should not supply everything by importing in order to establish the law of supply and demand in the marketplace, until we can produce everything we need ourselves. At that time we will be able to control supply and demand in the marketplace and shape it. I believe that the distribution of sensitive and strategic goods should still be under the control of the government to prevent hoarding.

[Question] It has been some time now that officials have been talking about the sale of government factories. What factories will be covered by this plan and what are the conditions for sale of factories?

[Answer] The sale of government factories has been discussed outside government circles for some time. Some people in the private sector wish to purchase the government factories. They have, therefore, sent letters to the prime minister and the respective ministers.

Some government factories, on the basis of Article 44 of the Constitution, cannot be sold to the private sector and belong to the government. There are others, should the government deem it appropriate, that can be turned over to the [private sector]. The reason for this interest in the private sector in purchase of such factories is that for one thing they are ready to use now, and it should be said that the interest of the private sector in industry is a positive thing. They naturally wish to purchase these factories and operate them and at the same time want to evaluate government policy and learn whether or not the government supports the activities of the private sector in production.

Also the purchase of already constructed factories is a far easier task, considering the problems of the shortage of foreign currency and the problem of importing materials to construct new factories. In my opinion, the government can turn over factories to the private sector if we receive good prices for them, because some members of the private sector want to make purchases based on the paper value of these factories 4 years ago, which would not be fair to the government, and though a factory must be operating at a loss under the government, it can be turned into a profit-making enterprise under the private sector.

The government has no incentive to sell these factories, plus it is not wise for the government to sell its profitable factories. It is wise to pass on its factories operating at a loss to the private sector.

[Question] How do you view the fundamental changes in the culture of society and how can they be deepened?

[Answer] The biggest change due to the establishment of the Islamic revolution has been to the culture of our society. In fact in regard to economy and social matters we still have nothing new to offer to the world. Any foreign dignitary that comes to Iran is shown Behesht-e Zahra and the photograph exhibition on the war -- at Laleh Park -- which show the changes in the culture of the Islamic Republic. Our Islamic revolution may be the only revolution in the world which has instituted a complete cultural change.

Cultural change is a long-term phenomenon and gradually affects all human beings and successive generations. I think that the changes that the Islamic Republic has been able to make in society under the leadership of the imam have become the basis of a cultural revolution and the press, radio, television and other mass media can play an important role in speeding up this revolution.

[Question] In your opinion, what is the focal point of the national economy in the future, what direction will the national economy take and how should it be planned?

[Answer] We have based the focal point of the economy on agriculture in our discussions in the Supreme Economic Council. The Islamic Republic is trying to make agriculture the main area of expansion in its future plans while [encouraging] the growth of industry and services for the agricultural sector. I have to explain that we will attach importance to other industries as well but our main thrust will be on agriculture while not ignoring other industrial fields. We believe that our agricultural independence and self-sufficiency will enable us to stand on our own feet sooner and should our increasing oil income end at some period, we will be faced with many problems and the industrial goods that we manufacture cannot compete in the world marketplace with countries which have 200 years of experience in industry and which are industrially ahead of us. Therefore agricultural self-sufficiency and making agriculture the focal point of the economy have been stressed.

[Question] Explain your opinion concerning the need for the presence of organizations and also explain what is meant by organizations [following] imam's line and the fact that political and ideological trends should not interfere in key issues.

[Answer] I have always believed in the necessity of organizations during the period of struggle against the idolatrous system and also following the victory of the Islamic revolution. I believe that one of the weaknesses of the Islamic Republic and the Islamic revolution has been the lack of organizations in the usual sense of the word. Our organizations have been in the form of the masses under the leadership of the imam and their lines of communications have mainly been through the clergymen. Such extensive organizations are unprecedented.

Organizations mean formation of cadres who manage the revolution. Had there been such organizations in our Islamic revolution we would have been able to recognize forces faithful and adherent to the Islamic revolution earlier and would have been able to use them in the best possible manner by discovering their abilities. Due to the lack of such organizations our information and capabilities were less. Of course, following the victory of the revolution some parties began to operate which follow the imam's line, clerical rule and canonism and they were able to do important work. Yet I believe that their efficiency has not been sufficient and maybe the present parties can cure this shortcoming in the future.

As far as the imam's line, which formed itself against the line opposing the imam at the beginning of the revolution, is concerned there was a group of Muslims which did not accept clerical rule, neither on the basis of faith nor politics, especially in the latter, and the imam's line was formed against them. The meaning of the line of the imam is to be Muslims and believe in jurisprudence and clerical rule and believe in the imam as the clerical ruler and the deputy of the lord of the ages. An individual or a group which believe this are the followers of the imam's line. The Tudeh Party considers itself a follower of the imam's line and claims that it accepts the political position of the imam -- only in regard to certain areas -- yet even if their claim is true they are not Muslims because of their beliefs and thus cannot be followers of the imam's line.

NVOI: EXPERTS ABROAD NOT ALLOWED TO RETURN

TA302915 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 30 September carried a commentary, entitled "The Return of Experts Who Are Followers of the Revolution's and the Imam's Line to the Homeland Is in the Interest of the Islamic Republic."

It stated that recently our homeland's society of physicians approached all doctors residing abroad and invited them to return to the homeland and to place their knowledge and expertise at the service of the revolution and their compatriots. Although it is true that both at the eve of the revolution and following its victory a number of experts, including physicians, fled the country for various reasons, it is also a fact that following the revolution's victory many of the committed experts were forced to leave the homeland due to the deliberate subversions of the liberals and the incompetence of the ignorant friends of the revolution. One also cannot and should not overlook the fact that a large number of our patriotic experts who were opposed to the shah's regime and who left the country of their own free will are still obliged to reside abroad because permission to return to the homeland is not being granted them.

"Reportedly, so far, many times physicians, engineers and experts in numerous fields residing in socialist countries, by referring to officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, requested to return to their homeland. But, unfortunately, up to now no positive response has been given by the Islamic government to the legal and legitimate demand of these skilled, competent and patriotic experts, and in many cases their requests have been ignored."

Our revolutionary homeland is in need of experts and specialists in all aspects of society, and this is particularly true with respect to health and medical care. The interests of the Iranian nation dictate that a basic reappraisal be conducted with respect to the existing policy toward patriotic Iranians residing abroad, including those residing in socialist countries.